

# The Observer

SAINT JOSEPH'S COLLEGE • Rensselaer, Indiana

## New SA executive officers are installed

by Julia Garcia

On November 28 and 29, the students of Saint Joseph's College elected the Student Association officers for 1996. Chad Pulver, senior, was elected president. Rachel Mahns, junior, is the new vice-president. Jeffrey Kirch, sophomore, was elected treasurer, and Jessica Beckemeier, sophomore, was elected secretary.

Most of the officers decided to run for similar reasons. "I thought I had something to offer the student body," said Kirch. Beckemeier wanted to get more involved and gain experience in working with the government.

Although their term has just begun, the new S.A. officers already have many ideas on how to improve the academic and social atmosphere at Saint Joseph's College.

According to Pulver, a main goal of his administration is to increase the amount of student involvement in student government. "At the moment, the students as a whole are not very interested in proactive movements, but are concerned with retroactive," stated Pulver. "I would like to see an increased knowledge of the Student Association's Constitution and Bylaws by the Senate and also by the general population, because I believe the

knowledge will allow the student body to realize the power they possess," stated Mahns.

The new S.A. officers would like to see this increase in student involvement from areas such as dorm government and day student representation. "One of my first goals is to place much more emphasis on the Governors and Senators of their respective dorms and day students to seek out the opinions and ideas from the students," added Pulver. Kirch would like to see dorms and clubs use the money allotted to them from the budget, and not let it go unused...because "money not used is lost."

Kirch said, "There are funds available for the various clubs and organizations on campus. We just need them to contact us and show us their ideas. Then we can allot the money."

According to Pulver, the new administration is already attempting to start new projects that include a new Day Student lounge, more projects for the dorms to raise unity and pride, a more environmentally active campus, and an improvement in the library resources. "Our administration is team oriented, and we know that accomplishments can be made if students put forth a concentrated effort," stated Mahns.



photo by Gene Korba

The drivers of the 1995 Saint Joseph's College Little 500 stay in formation during the pace lap. This year's race promises to be quite an event with bands, a parade, and other festivities planned.

## Planning for the 1996 Little 500 starts

by Erin Breetzke

As the April 30, 1996 date for the Saint Joseph's College Little 500 nears, plans are still being made and there is much anticipation about this year's events.

The race itself is the main attraction, and the enthusiasm for the event is running high.

"The Alumni race will probably have the same drivers as last year, because they enjoy it," Chairman of the Little 500 Committee, Senior Matt Davey, commented. "There are 14 [student] drivers [five returning], considerably more than the past," he added.

Other than the race, there are the usual activities held that weekend as well.

"There will be the Sumo wrestlers, the velcro

wall, and there will be bands for both Friday and Saturday night," Davey commented.

In addition to these events, some celebrities may be seen on campus during the weekend.

"Bryan Herta, an Indy

**"... this promises to be a really big Little 500"**

car driver, will be coming for the weekend to Grand Marshal and be a flagman," Davey explained.

Because campus was once the training grounds for the Chicago Bears, some may be returning for a new event.

"We will also have an event called the Halas Mile. Ex Chicago Bears that used to practice here will be com-

ing to run a series of running races which will help promote the race and the Bears," Davey stated.

Most planning is right on track, if not a bit ahead of schedule, but a lot more assistance is needed for the race.

Putting on Little 500 requires many people. There are opportunities to help in the fields of track marshalling and working in pit crews. This is in addition to being a driver.

"It takes a lot of planning and a lot of stuff still needs to be done, and that takes a lot of people. Drivers can still apply by the February 16 deadline with their deposit," he added. "[But] this promises to be a really big Little 500."

## A Letter to Dr. King

Dr. King,

I was disturbed the other day when someone asked me what I was doing special for your birthday. As I think about you, I think about a man who fought and died for all of mankind, to be treated equally and fairly and not special. I feel that we should celebrate you not only on the third Monday in January, but every day of life.

I celebrate you with every breath that I take because I know that you and others died to make it better not just for me but for all

people. One day in a year doesn't and won't make up for all of the other days that we should be celebrating what you have given us.

So what I can do special for you today is to tell others that I will try to make each day a special day in memory of what you fought for, and that is to treat all people with respect. So today, January 15, 1996, I ask the people who are here today, is this the only day that you think about Dr. King?

Ernest Watson

## One student's reflections upon leaving SJC and returning home

by Donna Jean Heitz

*DJ Heitz, who was a reporter for The Observer, decided to leave Saint Joseph's College and return home at the semester.*

What does Saint Joe's mean to each of us? To me, it was an experience of immeasurable worth! It is the place I grew to call "home." So many people and places and

memories...all very precious to me.

Some days I sit here at home, 200 miles away, and I am thoroughly amazed at how much I miss the cafe. Think about it--the cafe is the hot spot! You and your friends stop in, grab a bite to eat (complain about how aw-

ful the food is this week), and dish out the daily gossip.

On better days, Nicole, my niece who has convinced herself that she is the family cat, makes me feel as if I am wasting my time missing all of you. She and her sister spin me in a whirlwind of pleasantries and laughter. What are my memories when I can introduce two little girls to the world around them?

Life on "the other side" has its moments, no doubt. A real city. Clubs and bars. Places to eat after 11 p.m. But, to be honest, I have my fair share of days when I miss a lot more at Saint Joe's than the cafe scene. Life can feel awfully lonely when you are unable to enjoy it with your close buddies and your boyfriend or girlfriend.

In college, most of us become secure in our groups of friends and in classes. What I now realize is that stepping away--going out into the "real world" again--and finding a job may also mean leaving these best friends behind.

Yeah, the telephone calls and letters keep the bonds of friendship alive, but there is no running around the dorm or campus together anymore, no silly voice mail messages (with nonsensical songs on them), no sporting events, no parties, no cafeteria, NOT EVEN DELIVERIES FROM "THE CUFF," I mean, the HUB!

Remember those days when college was still a hope, an idealistic image in your mind? College meant freedom. It meant a new life, a life of your own. I expected to find this when I went to college.

Once I settled down at Saint Joseph's College, I found something else--friendship, love, healing, and myself. Ultimately, my college experiences involved an education...and a few parties here and there.

Yet, I also gained a lifetime of knowledge about relationships, about dreams and making them come true, and, most importantly, about enjoying what you have while it is still tangible.

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## Depreciation of text books: A costly burden on students

by DeAnn Hazzard

Well, it is obvious the new semester has begun and by now the usual routine of classes, homework, studying, and partying has been established. The Monday morning classes at 8 or 9 are still just as annoying as ever and dorm life compromises are in effect. Unfortunately, that semesterly visit to the bookstore is also a necessary expenditure to begin our scholarly endeavors.

It is amazing knowing before a foot is set in that store of Puma pride that \$3-400 will magically disappear from pockets or from checkbooks or from parents' bank accounts. This Houdini trick of disappearing green paper is not the result of a shopping spree on clothes, but an exchange for white paper stuck between high gloss card-

board, namely our textbooks.

Textbooks, the same textbooks that highly damage a student's cash flow, will be worth hardly anything at the end of the semester. I understand that times change quickly, but it is hard to believe that a book that cost \$80 at the beginning of the semester is only worth \$10 at the end.

Of course the depreciation of some books is understandable--new editions that make old ones obsolete is acceptable. But books that have been used for years (and have probably been overpriced for years, I might add), raking in diddly squat at the end of a term is wrong.

Students resent the fact that they are getting ripped off, and as a result they are faced with a few options

to handle the situation. They either do not bother to sell their books back at the end of the semester and the books become a doorstop, or the books hit the trash directly (do not pass go and definitely do not collect \$200), or students embark on a desperate and difficult journey to find another student who is willing to purchase these books at a fair price.

Whatever option is taken, the sad assumption and probable conclusion is that these textbooks are a waste of money. Okay, they served their purpose for a semester, offering students immeasurable amounts of knowledge, but a \$90 book used for 15 weeks with hardly any resale value is pathetic.

There has to be a better system in the textbook situation that neither rips off

a student nor wastes an expensive book. Why can't students exchange old textbooks that are still relevant with new ones or use them as a sort of downpayment on the next semester's necessities?

Anything to decrease the spending would be appreciated. Maybe students could actually get a fair price when selling them back based on the condition they are returned in. A book ripped to shreds should rake in a few less dollars, whoops, I mean cents, than a book still in one piece.

The textbook buy-back situation is definitely not ideal, and unfortunately students are the ones getting burned. An education is the most valuable thing one can invest in, but that does not mean a student should be ripped off in the process.

# Columbian Players present "Crimes of the Heart" *"Banet Watch" premieres on Channel 6*

by Ashley Pierce

On February 1, 2 and 3, the Columbian Players of Saint Joseph's College will be presenting "Crimes of the Heart" at 8:00 pm in the college auditorium.

John Rahe, director of the play, commented that "Crimes of the Heart" has won a Pulitzer Prize and the Drama Circle Prize for best play. He also commented that it was "originally produced by the Actors Theater of Louisville." Rahe believes it is a play that will appeal to a broad audience. "It's a good play, a modern one that is good for adult audiences," he stated.

"Crimes of the Heart," written by Beth Henley is set in Hazelhurst, Mississippi, where the three Magrath sisters have gathered to deal with yet another family crisis. The Magrath's grandfather is in the local hospital, facing what seems to be his final hours. Lenny, the oldest sister, finds herself celebrating her thirtieth birthday

alone. Meg, the middle sister, has returned to Hazelhurst having failed an attempt at a singing career in California. Babe, the youngest of the Magrath sisters, is out on bail after shooting her husband in the stomach. Rounding out the cast are Chick, the Magrath's snobbish cousin, Barnette Lloyd, an awkward young lawyer, and Doc Porter, Meg's old boyfriend.

The cast of the play includes Ashley Pierce as Lenny, Jamie Martens as Meg, Brigid Boos as Babe, Michelle Eberle as Chick, Charlie Barret as Barnette Lloyd, and Andy Hicks as Doc Porter.

Rahe, is very positive about the progress that has been made. "Everyone is working really hard and doing a nice job, and it will be worthwhile for everyone to come see it," he commented.

Ticket prices are \$3 for adults, \$1 for students, and students from Saint Joseph's College are admitted free of charge.

by Becky Johnson

The sixteenth episode of Out of Class has been created at SJC. "This episode follows the traditional stipulation of campus life on a small college" said Director Fred Berger. The plot idea of this episode came from James Sedam, a Sophomore at Saint Joe. The sitcom is a parody of "Baywatch" called "Banet Watch."

Out of Class was originally created in 1986 by students who attended the Media Workshop at UCLA with Professor Fred Berger. Six hundred students from around the United States participate in Westwood, California annually. These students wanted to create something from the knowledge that they had gained. So Out of Class was started and has continued every semester, since then.

"All except a few of the shots for "Banet Watch" were taken on campus," stated Director Berger. "The camera shooting was challenging because it was shot outside at the lake on two different occasions" said Berger. "The filming was interesting because all the water scenes were shot on one day while the others were shot two weeks later on the beach with vastly different temperatures," said Producer Scott Brinkman.

Out of Class is one of the best things I've ever been

involved in," said the Camera Operator, Michelle Eberle. "It was interesting to see people at the tryout dressed in their beach attire as they maintained a sense of concentration. Hammering out the script was a hard thing to do because we had to meet the director's demands," stated Eberle.

Producer Scott Brinkman stated that "there were no short fuses...there was a camaraderie between everyone all striving for the same goal. The hard thing was coordinating times and schedules for eleven people."

Brinkman and Eberle have experienced the brilliance of Director Berger before in other episodes of "Out of Class". "The days I liked best were when Brinkman and I did the shooting and writing of Banet Watch" stated Eberle. "One of the proudest things for me is watching something on paper come to life, next to Channel Six news. It's interesting to watch the faces and gestures of people besides the students, watch the show. It's difficult to find places that SJC students won't recognize," commented Eberle.

"My favorite scene is the one with John Rahe. He plays Captain Miller, an older lifeguard. I think it's the funniest scene of "Banet Watch" stated Brinkman.

"Banet Watch" was

my first episode of Out of Class, stated Kathy Braun, who had the job of continuity. "It was a real exciting learning experience. The production, cameras, scripts and people made the show seem like a Hollywood review. Now when I watch television I watch it differently." Braun's job consisted of prompting lines and doing log sheets for the scenes and takes. "I basically did what Director Berger said," stated Braun. "I was really impressed with the way Berger spiced up shots that weren't as glamorous as they appear to be".

Andy Hicks said his first experience of Out of Class, "...was FUN and exciting!" Everyone seemed to agree on that note. "Professor Fred Berger, Dr. Parker, Professor John Rahe and President Albert Shannon were among the alumni present for the premier of "Banet Watch" stated Brinkman and others.

In the episode, Bridget Boos and Josh Northrup play fulltime lifeguards. Andy Hicks, Cheryl Kitty, James Sedam and Gretchen Uphoff play part time guards. There is also a cameo appearance of Brinkman rowing a boat along the beach. Brinkman said that "the crew is open for suggestions for the next episode of Out of Class.



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## News Briefs

Campus Ministry is organizing a Spring Break trip to Appalachia. If you are interested contact Sr. Linda Kors, C.S.C. at extension 6302

The Observer has relocated it's offices to Dweiger Hall. The newspaper occupies the former Vice President for Academic Affairs office.

## College textbook costs can be lowered

by Becky Johnson

Are you tired of spending a lot of money on student textbooks? Catalyst Press is introducing their new Textbook Tips: Money-Saving Strategies for Students. "Students could save as much as 75% of what they spend each year on books," says author Jack Banks. The book contains tips on how to get free textbooks and other use-

ful strategies.

Textbooks Tips gives ideas on how to buy and sell books through campus stores and wholesalers. Banks said, "Students feel that they're being ripped off, but they really don't understand what they can do about it."

The book is endorsed by the United States Student Association. The USSA says that it [the guide] is an effective

consumer guide for cutting ever-rising textbook prices. Textbook Tips is offered directly from Catalyst Press.

If interested in Textbook Tips, send a check or money order of \$8.95 (includes tax and shipping) with your return address to: Catalyst Press Inc., Suite 200, Olympic Towers, 300 Pearl Street, Buffalo NY 14202.

# Highlights of Harlaxton College

by Klaudia Janek

Foreign Correspondent

Saint Joseph's College has been affiliated with the University of Evansville and Harlaxton College for the past 25 years. Harlaxton College is located near Grantham, England, which is about two and a half hours from London. The College's campus is actually on an old estate which was bought by an alumni of UE and donated to the University of Evansville.

Today the Manor House, built by Sir Gregory in the 1500's, houses students, classrooms, the library, the dining room, the computer center and a few other necessities. The classrooms are set up around the Manor in various rooms like the Gold Room, the State Room, the Morning Room and the Long Gallery. Some of the professors who teach here are from Britain and others are professors from the various colleges affiliated with Harlaxton, including Dr. Phil Posey, who has taken a sabbatical from SJC this semester to teach at Harlaxton.

Most students are in awe for the first few days after arriving at Harlaxton. The first glimpse of Harlaxton is while driving down the mile long driveway. All the rooms in the Manor are sort of haphazard without any type of floor plan. Most students start exploring within a few hours of arriving. When they walk into some of the big rooms, they flip on the chandelier and start looking for secret passages. The next day many students go into the town of Grantham (5 times bigger than Rensselaer) and buy some must haves.

Days never really become monotonous here, even during our 4 day week. Students tend to do their studying during the afternoon and nights are usually saved for visiting the area pubs and hanging out with the locals. If you do not feel like paying for a taxi to get you into town you can go to the Bistro (which is the pub on campus).

Weekends are for travelling. The College organizes trips, but students also travel on their own. The highlights of the organized trips include: London, Stonehenge, Ireland, Scotland and Paris, France. Many students have already organized their own trips to the Canary Islands, Switzerland, Africa and Egypt.

Now for the food part. We have definitely gotten a break from good ole' Saint Joe chicken, but who knew the English had so many ways of preparing potatoes! Every day since we have been here, the Dining Room has fixed us a different type of potato, some being very interesting indeed. There also comes a point where many students go through fast food withdrawal...since it takes too much effort to go to the one McDonald's in town.

With so many things to do all the time, sleeping in becomes a forgotten luxury, even on weekends. Who has time to sleep when you have things to do like visit Buckingham Palace and Big Ben? Shopping also tends to take precedence over sleep! Finding things to do and places to go takes very little effort at Harlaxton and most trips definitely turn into adventures.

## Yearbook captures memories

by William Shannon

Cicero once said that "History vitalizes memory." Our own personal memories are fragile and fleeting, and there are things that we forget that we wish we could recall in later years. For this reason history is recorded instead of simply memorized.

Fortunately, there is an easy way to encapsulate all of the memories of these "good old college days" into one publication. That book is the SJC Yearbook, Phase.

The yearbook, which is the stable recorder of campus events, does change and

undergo improvement with time. "We do all of the layout and word processing on computers," says staffer Jeff Kirch. "The book also has a theme, 'Achieving the Dream,' which links all of the parts of the book together."

Should the yearbook change? "Continuity is an important aspect for the yearbook," said Phase staff advisor Chris Keith. "Hopefully," Keith went on to say, "it's open to new ideas and ways of doing things."

On a practical level, the question that arises is "Will any changes to the

yearbook raise the price?" Kirch said that the price of the book will remain at around thirty dollars, which Kirch says also covers printing costs and computer upgrades.

"The yearbooks serve the same purpose that the ancient annuals did. They are history books first and foremost. They tell the history of the college, year by year," mused Kirch. The yearbooks record the legacy of Saint Joseph's College for future generations, and they also help to revitalize personal memories and experiences of these future "good old days."

## SUB plans for new semester

by William Shannon

As we returned from our break, we were greeted in our halls and passageways with a poster bearing the image of a large moose. Upon further inspection, the moose was heralding the bill of events planned for the second semester by the Student Union Board (SUB).

For the upcoming semester, SUB has its usual smorgasbord of goings-on planned. There are comedians, bands, game shows, dances, Coconut Joe's and many other happenings that

promise to make the first semester of 1996 a fun and memorable one.

What are the dynamics of this campus entertainment committee? "SUB plays a very active role in the SJC community," says SUB Director Cindy Rinke. "We do the most as far as entertainment for students is concerned."

As much as SUB does for the SJC community, volunteers are in short supply. "We have been unable to generate a lot of interest to get involved with SUB," Rinke

went on to say. Volunteers are the life of an organization, and without them, nothing can be accomplished or even started.

In looking back, SUB can be compared to owning a pet moose (like the one on the poster, for example). They are big, fun, active, always unpredictable and definitely unique. However, if there are not people to take care of the moose, it will cease to be any fun, and it will just sit there. Therefore, take care of the moose, give SUB a try. Keep the good times rollin'.

## Classifieds

Yearbook Portraits : January 29 & 30, 1996

No Sitting Fee--No Appointment Necessary

Monday, January 29--9:00am to 8:00pm

Tuesday, January 30--9:00am to 5:00pm

Halleck Center North Lounge

All SJC Student Body/Community Members Welcome

Groups are encouraged to make appointments on Monday evening, between 5:00-8:00pm by calling PK at 6127. The photographer will also be available both days if that's more convenient for gathering members for group photos.

**Found:** One fallen angel...blue eyes and balding...a bit bruised and battered discovered in The Grotto...for more information contact Ed Balas at extension 5383.

## Students speak out: The tradition of New Year's Resolutions

by Vanessa Mangiaforte  
and Peggy McLeish

Now that we all have returned from our break for the holidays, some of us have brought along new expectations. These expectations may have come in the form of New Year's resolutions.

The following are resolutions of various members of the Saint Joseph's College community.

"I quit smoking." —Nick Anagnost

"To take the time to understand." —Ed Balas

"My New Year's resolution was to quit smoking. Then I bought a pack at 12:03 am." —Shannon McDonald

"Why bother?" —Jeff Hall

"If I want to give something up, I would give it up on my own...not for New Year's." —Brad Gellert

"I didn't make any resolutions because they usually just fall to the side. I think someone's first resolution should be to keep their resolutions." —Kurt Krouse

Our words: Neither one of us made definite resolutions for New Year's this year. The idea of resolutions may be a nice one, but it can almost be discouraging considering the actual percentage of resolutions that are kept.

Instead, we both like the idea of making resolutions at times when they seem fit for one's own life, not because of the date.

## Are New Year's Resolutions practical?

by Peggy McLeish

On the evening of New Year's Eve, one can flip on the television and see the ball drop in New York City, or be one of the many drinking too much champagne. The most common conversation starter for the night is, "What are your resolutions?" New Year's resolutions have become something we are socially expected to make, but how many of us truly abide by our resolutions? I mean, honestly, how radically does the situation of the world change in the seconds between 11:59 December 31st and 12:00 January 1st? Despite the celebration, all that really changes is that we have a new number to write on our checks. The wars do not magically stop and our lives do not magically change.

Personally, I have declined from making New Year's resolutions this year. Instead, I have recognized that my new beginnings in life do not necessarily occur on the morning of the first day of January. Each of us individually has our own "New Year's Day" when we reach a turning point in our life. For instance, someone close to us passes away, we begin a new job, we change schools, or we discover something new about ourself. These are times when we should decide to make our resolutions and recognize a new beginning in our life.

From now on, do not think that the only appropriate time to make a change in your life is January 1st of a new year. The new year in your life could begin any day which you choose. After all, if you think about it, January 1st is only the beginning of a new year for those who follow a predetermined calendar invented in another time period by other people. It is a reference, but it shouldn't be something by which to make drastic decisions for your life.

## The Zimmer Reviews



by Brian Zimmer

I've always wondered what it would have been like to be around when the Beatles first came to America, to experience the hype and the innocence of their beginnings. I wonder what people first thought of Lynyrd Skynyrd or The Allman Brothers.

Today we have a band called Pearl Jam, and if my calculations are correct Scotty, they are on their way to reaching legendary status.

After releasing their Merkinball EP, the band is set to release another album (possibly live, studio, or both) that will surely go multi-platinum, making it 4 straight LPs to do so.

Going platinum is the accomplishment I'm trying to highlight. Ace of Base went platinum. So did Michael "I like little boys" Jackson's new attempt at seeming hip and/or normal. Scrunge artists, Bush went platinum and I cry myself to sleep every night because of it.

Pearl Jam has taken the title of "Platinum LP" to another level. They have changed the face of Rock n' Roll and daw' gone it, I love it.

Pearl Jam is: Edward Vedder, Jack Irons, Mike McCready, Stone Gossard, and Jeff Ament. All are great musicians and are even classier gentlemen (don't confuse that for being a saint.)

They don't endorse Calvin Klein or Nike. In fact Eddie Vedder avoids wearing clothing with logos if at all possible. They put on 2 to 3 hour long concerts where fans get every penny worth and don't have to worry about getting pissed on by the band. Their battle with Ticket Master is the first time that I can remember a band taking corporate America to court on behalf of the fan's pocketbooks.

The Ten Club, Pearl Jam's Fan Club (P.O. Box 4570 Seattle, Wa. 98104) treats it members to a 45 every Christmas that features stuff that you won't get anywhere else. It also

comes with all sorts of other goodies, like photos and interesting tid bits--ex. Stone also likes little boys, like M.J. (That's a joke as far as I know).

Pearl Jam also makes great music, not trying to save the world in one big chunk; bit size proportions suit the band just fine. Their sound is truly revolutionary. It's called Rock n' Roll and they play it perfectly! If any of today's bands tell you that Pearl Jam hasn't influenced them, they are lying.

More reviews, more reviews!!

Alice In Chains This album is self-titled, which seems to be the thing to do these days. Who cares! It's Alice in Chains and they can do what ever they want. But when the collective juices start to run low what do you do? Alice in Chains decided to make this album, and I choose to panic! AIC is still relying on some of the same formulas used in Facelift but this time its pretty choppy stuff. The Jerry Cantrell's guitar seems to be digressing into something very glamish and frightening. Lane Staley can still out-wail an Irish banshee and because of this quality, the album works to some extent. If you like AIC you will be a bit disappointed but still you should probably get this one, if you are not a big fan you might want to spend the extra money on a few Slush Puppies at the HUB (two squirts of orange and one of pina colada!) I give it 6 worried AIC fans and 7 Slush Puppies to mope over.

Golden Smog Down by the Ol' Mainstream / Eric's Trip Purple Blue. Both of these albums are big surprises for me but I don't have too much room to critique. Golden Smog includes members of Soul Asylum, Wilco, and the now defunct Jayhawks. Of all the contributing bands, the trademark sound of the Jayhawks is the most striking.

Eric's Trip reminds me of Sonic Youth with a little less volume. Their energy is conveyed in guitar first and vocals second. They are very loud and thick guitar is in excess. Both Golden Smog and Eric's Trip can be heard on 90.5 WPUM, Puma Rock. Give em' a listen I thing you'll like it.

## Hey Students...



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# Students Rewarded as Coaches

by Jill Peterson

A H H H H H H H H H

The ups and downs of coaching—parents yelling at their children or screaming at the coach combined with the thrill of victory and the agony of defeat. There is a lot of attention given to the actual athletes that play sports today; however, seldom do the coaches who spend hours of their time teaching the art of a specific sport get the recognition they deserve.

Three Pumas, Senior Donna Bossung, Junior Tami Hubbard, and Sophomore Angie Davidson, are in the coaching realm at two local high schools. Each coach agrees that coaching can be challenging, yet rewarding, especially after a victory or helping a student-athlete with a personal or athletic problem.

After playing Varsity Basketball at North White High School for four years, Bossung committed to play basketball at St. Joe. For two years, she gave her all to the sport but then decided that she

no longer wanted to play. Instead, because Bossung felt that she could not tear herself away from her love for the game, she made a pledge to coach. Since then, the experience of being the Girl's Junior Varsity coach at North White for two seasons has been worthwhile.

"Even though my team only won a total of three games last year and hasn't won a game this season, I appreciate the 110% effort that most of my girls give in order to improve their skills and become better players. Nevertheless, I do have a few students who play for the wrong reasons. They think that they can be superstars without undertaking any commitment to excel," Bossung said in response to a few of her reactions of coaching.

Bossung's favorite part of coaching is the fact that she gets a chance to see the players grow as individuals as well as basketball players during the course of the season.

Hubbard, Head Cheer Coach at Rensselaer Central High School, has been in charge of the Freshmen, Junior Varsity, and

Varsity cheerleading squads for two years. As a professional instructor, she has worked as a camp trainer for One-on-One Spirit Camps and as a private coach for high schools putting together state fair routines. Recently, Hubbard put together a special dance-choreography program for Kankakee Valley High School, which just competed in the National High School Cheerleading Competition Finals in Texas.

"I love my job because I get satisfaction from watching others succeed. When I was given the opportunity to coach, I felt that the cheer program needed a lot of updating. I have turned the girls into dynamic athletes who are finally appreciated by their peers and fans," Hubbard said. Her cheerleaders currently are among the best in the surrounding Jasper County area, with two squads finishing in one of the top three places at camp. Hubbard exclaimed, "The Varsity cheerleaders outperform most of the local squads by a long shot; they have worked together

to entertain crowds almost to the point of perfection."

"It is difficult to really understand cheerleading until you have actually have lived it. Many people do not know what it takes to be spirited, entertaining, athletic, and supportive of ALL athletes in the school. Cheerleading is just not about cheering for Men's football and basketball games, holding pom poms, and looking pretty. It's about determination, conditioning, smiling, and leading the crowd no matter if the team is winning or losing," Hubbard commented. She feels that she is fortunate to shape the lives of young adults who can use their outgoing personalities and leadership qualities to be leaders of tomorrow.

As Co-Head Coach of the Rensselaer Central High School Girl's Tennis Team with Junior Chasity Miller, Davidson begins her second year of coaching this spring. So far, her fondest memory has been the first match that her team won last year. It was a sur-

prise that as first year coaches she and Miller were able to mold the team into a whole so quickly.

"The best part of coaching is when a player asks for help with something that she has been having trouble. When the player has been struggling for awhile and finally achieves her goal after a period of time, the greatest feeling is to see the satisfaction that she reveals," Davidson said. "At times I find it frustrating because I don't get the respect that another coach might receive just because of my age. The students usually are not intimidated by anything I say or do because I am practically their same age," Davidson concluded, "Through my coaching endeavors, I am now able to appreciate the devotion, enthusiasm, and determination that coaches in any sport give to their players in order to encourage the aspect of teamwork and a lifelong goal to fitness and well-being."

## Athletic Profile: Pottinger Leads Lady Pumas in Scoring

by John Osborne

The women's basketball program at Saint Joseph's College has enjoyed considerable success in the past years and the Lady Pumas seem to be on the road to another stellar season. Currently, the Lady Pumas are in a three-way tie for second place in the Great Lakes Valley Conference. Much of this year's success can be traced back to the skills and talent of the phenomenal Junior, Tammy Pottinger.

Pottinger, who transferred to Saint Joseph's from Saint Ambrose College in Davenport, Iowa, is currently the Lady Puma's leading scorer and rebounder. But her contributions to the team go beyond her individual statistics. She has brought not only her

athletic ability and basketball talent to the team, but also her positive attitude and tough work ethic that can't help but rub off on her teammates.

"I've learned how to handle a commitment," the 5'11 Pottinger said. "I've learned that when things get hard you have to work through it. That's how it works in the real world. When you have a job, you just can't quit when there are hard problems."

She did, however, move on to an environment that is more suitable to her. Pottinger will be the first one to say that since coming to Saint Joseph's she has been a much happier person and a better basketball player. She credits much of this to the style, philosophy, and personality of Head Women's Basketball Coach Lynn Plett.

"My coach at Saint

Ambrose and I just didn't agree," She said. "He's [Coach Plett] my type of coach. He's easy to play for and our feelings about how the game should be played are similar. At Saint Joseph's I'm just a lot happier, relaxed, confident, and more sure of my role. Things are in a much better perspective than they were before (at Saint Ambrose)."

Still, when a player has to wear the label of the team's most prolific scorer and rebounder she knows she will be the focus of her opponent's defensive plans. It can and often does tend to put a lot of pressure on a young player. However, that is not the case with the twenty year-old Pottinger. In her eyes, it comes down to working as a team and not bothering with what opponents might be saying about her.

"I could have a lot of

pressure on me, but I don't," she said. "If I just go out and play my game without thinking about it I will play my best. And I think that can be said for the rest of team, too."

The Lady Pumas are just past the mid-way point of their season, and right in the thick of things in the GLVC. As Pottinger leads them down that ever winding path towards March Madness, she feels they are "very capable of making it to the NCAA Tournament" for the second year in a row. Regardless, though, of how the team finishes this season, Coach Plett can rest assured that he will have one of the GLVC's top players returning for him next season.

**Good Luck Pumas!**

## Top Five New Events for the 1996 Atlanta Olympics

5. The All-Steroid Decathlon

4. 100 m Underwater Basket-Weaving

3. Javelin Catching

2. Spam-Eating Contest (How long till you puke?)

1. On-the-Forehead Beer Can Crushing (Don't forget to \*drink\* the beer first!)

# Basketball Teams Successful During Christmas Break

by Kevin Collins

As everyone else was packing up and going home to family and friends for the long Christmas break, the Men's and Women's basketball teams were preparing to spend their break practicing and playing basketball. When they weren't playing or practicing, they were trying to pass the time on campus by making trips out of Rensselaer to Merrillville or Lafayette. These athletes chose to give up their vacation time and represent Saint Joseph's College in the Great Lakes Valley Conference.

Despite playing on the road and lacking student support at home, the Pumas had an average break, going 3-3 overall and 2-3 in the GLVC. The Lady Puma's also played well over break, going 4-2 overall and 4-1 in the GLVC.

Over Christmas break, the Men's team played Concordia, Bellarmine, and Kentucky Wesleyan at home and IPFW, the University of Indianapolis, and the University of Wisconsin-Parkside on the road. Getting off to a good start against Concordia was relatively easy for the Pumas as they won 94-68 behind Player-of-the-Week Sophomore Chad Patterson's 32 points and 13 rebounds and Senior Kevin Denson's 13 points. After cruising past Concordia, Bellarmine college was the next to try to invade the Puma's den. The Pumas went on to show Bellarmine whose floor it was as they won 76-63 behind the leadership of Patterson's 19 points and Denson's 17 points and eight rebounds. The Men seemed to be getting off to a at start during break, but still had face Kentucky Wesleyan. KWU ided the Pumas a heartbreaker of oss winning 91-90; the Pumas ord dropped to 6-3 overall and in the Great Lakes Valley Con- ence.

This loss marked the end the Pumas stay at home as they t to travel north to face IPFW. e Pumas handed them a thrill- 76-75 defeat, behind the lead- hip of Kevin Denson (33 points) l Chad Patterson (24 points) once in. However, the Pumas dropped next two games of their road trip Indianapolis, 60-63, and UW- kside, 73-78.

On January 11th, the Pu- s came in as underdogs, but ved that they could more than d their own as they defeated USI 80. This was the first time the n had defeated USI in three rs. As this was the first week k for the students, there was hing better the Pumas could have en them.

Yet the good times were t beginning as Saturday brought

yet another opponent (SIU-Edwardsville) and another Puma victory 82-70, bettering the Pumas record to 9-5 overall and 5-3 in the conference.

The Women had an easier time over Christmas break, even though they got off to a horrible start against Michigan Tech, losing 92-57. This may have been the wake-up that the Lady Pumas needed as they were coming off a three game winning streak and had two GLVC competitors ahead of them. First came Bellarmine College, who took the Lady Pumas to the wire before SJC could finally pull off a 96-95 victory. Leading the way for the ladies were Junior transfer Tami Pottinger with 21 points and 13 rebounds, and Sophomore Jessika Henry and Senior Mindy Laffoon with 19 points each. Next the Lady Pumas con-

tinued to better their record against Kentucky Wesleyan. The Lady Pumas handed KWU a 72-68 defeat, improving their record to 7-2 overall and 3-0 in the GLVC. This gave the Lady Pumas a two game winning streak as they hit the road for the next three games.

First came a trip to IPFW. Here their two game winning streak ended as Fort Wayne defeated SJC 82-72. This loss might have been what lit the fire under the Lady Pumas as they went on a four-game winning streak. They started outshooting their opponents, beginning with the Greyhounds of Indianapolis 80-72. Their next victim was the University of Wisconsin-Parkside where the Pumas kept it rolling, 86-80. This pushed the Lady Pumas record to 9-3 and 5-1 in the conference, as well as brought an end to the road trip and Christ-

mas break.

When the students returned, the Lady Pumas gave them something to cheer about as they beat Southern Indiana 83-78. On January 13, SIU-Edwardsville fell to the Lady Pumas 84-80. The Ladies were off to a great start as they were 11-3 overall and 7-1 in the GLVC.

Recently, the Men and Women both went on the road as they headed for Northern Kentucky

and Bellarmine, where both teams had a rough go of it. The Men went 1-1, losing to Northern, 83-60, and defeating Bellarmine 71-68. The Women went 0-2 on the trip as they lost to both Northern (65-61) and Bellarmine (95-64). Both teams will be looking to get things going in the right direction again January 27 as they host IPFW.

## CONGRATULATIONS

to Puma Trackster Jay Scafile

for a 1st place finish in the 55m dash in 6.51 seconds

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# Reflections of Faith



Photo by Jen Palecek

by Faith Sievers

This year when I heard "Auld Lang Syne" I was in the basement of a stranger's house in New Jersey. With me was a whole passle of soon-to-be cousins that were squabbling about what television station to watch as we waited for midnight to roll around. All the older people were sitting around comatose and droopy-eyed, just waiting for the clock to strike so that they could crawl off to bed, and the younger ones argued about what songs on MTV's "Top 100 of '95 Countdown" sucked.

It wouldn't be so bad if I had planned to do that, or always greeted each new year with depression and boredom, but I had planned to be at TIMES SQUARE....Just me, my fiance, and 40,000 other people corralled by barricades, bombarded with tons of confetti, jostled by drunkards, and freezing our derriars off as we waited for a big, oversized flashbulb to drop about five seconds too late.

Now doesn't that sound exciting, fun, and most of all romantic? But NO! Here I sat, only forty-five minutes from New York City, drinking sparkling cider out of those little disposable, fits-into-that-dispenser-by-your-bathroom-sink Dixie cups... listening to one of Coolio's video's.

Yup, my last New Year's Eve as a single person, and I was sitting in the basement of a prefab home in a yuppie-ville housing devel-

opment that only offered three house styles. Why, you might ask? Well, that's the worst part. My future husband's grandmother passed away.

I had to leave my cozy home the day after Christmas, drive eight hours to Yorktown, Indiana only to climb into a mini-van containing my future sister-in-law who is eight months pregnant, her husband who is a chain smoker, her son, and my better-half himself for a fourteen hour car-ride to a funeral for a woman I had never met.

And then there was the estate to deal with (since my fiance's father was named executor of the will) that was guarded by a killer cat. I am NOT joking. This feline had total reign of the house. It was possessed by the devil. It hated all humans and lived to make our pitiful lives hell by lunging out from under coffee tables and taking flying leaps from counter tops. Believe me, the cute kitty was NOT de-clawed. I shook it off of my leg several times and lost a couple of flannels to its shredding ability.

After a back-breaking week of tears, dust-bunnies, moving vans, greasy restaurant food, endless introductions to future relatives, and claw marks, there I sat as all of my friends and family tried to pick me out of the crowd somewhere behind Dick Clarke. And I was just slouching on a couch with a snoring guy who I was about to spend the rest of my life with.

I swear I lived a parody of one of those Chevy Chase vacation movies. But hey, I didn't want to start the new year with a hang-over anyway. Besides, I was almost glad to get back to school after that traumatic interlude, even though I knew it meant arctic weather conditions and cloudy gray days. Perhaps that's the craziest part of all.

## RAISIN

a poem by Virginia Evans, junior

Almost black, tinged with brown, these  
Sweet drops of nectar rest on my tongue;  
Plucked, earthly nipples, I suckle,  
Their skin, delicate;  
Exposing, its center, delectable,  
Seeds left on my tongue, with a swallow, dissipates,  
The fruit after the fruit.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Anyone interested in having their creative work published on Stuff, contact Rachel Barlage at ext. 8263 or on e-mail.

MEASURE is now accepting submissions for creative writing and artwork for the 1996 issue. The deadline is February 16. Place all submissions in Dr. Garrity's mailbox in the Core Building.

## Injury gives student new perspective

by Kathleen Brass

As most people around campus have noticed, I did something incredibly stupid, but not unlike myself. I broke my foot. I know that I am not the first person in the world to do this sort of thing, nor am I in a situation worse than anyone else who has mangled one of their appendages.

But I am a relatively independent person who does not need, or like, the assistance of others on a daily basis. So, when I found out that I would be stuck on crutches for the next few weeks, I was not the least bit content.

Once again, my all-knowing and all-powerful mother was right when she offered her "I've been around a lot longer than you" advise. She always reminds me that, "You don't know what you got until it is gone." Whenever she says this, I think of that late-80's song and start to hum, but what I never realized was that she was (once again) absolutely correct.

I think of this when I am waking up an hour earlier than I usually do, dreading the fact that I have to start another day. I remember the good old days when I could walk to class in under 10 minutes, wear my jeans without the legs being cut, and actually look at

myself in the mirror when I did my hair or put my contacts in.

But in the worst of times, I always realize that the cast will go away in a month, and, if worse comes to worst, I can always beat people who upset me over the head with my leg, or my crutch (I'm only kidding, but I know some of you are jealous of this ability).

Another thing that I have noticed is the lack of handicapped accessible facilities on campus. I don't know how many of you have noticed, but in order to even get to the newly installed handicapped accessible doors to the Halleck Center, a person in a wheel chair, or on crutches, must first climb at least 11 stairs.

When that person finally enters the building, s/he can't go anywhere except up or down a lot more stairs. I even tried the back entrance. Here there are only 2 stairs to climb, but you have to walk through the kitchen to get anywhere.

Also, the dorms are completely insufficient when it comes to people in wheelchairs. To get into either Justin or Halas there are 3 stairs, with no railing, to climb. Thank God for the fact that I did not manage to break anything more extreme than I did.

I have been very thank-

ful that both the Science building and the new Core building are easy to get around in. But even with all of their benefits, I have noticed one thing that has really bothered me. Two days in a row I was being dropped off, and one of these days all of the handicapped parking was taken.

I just happened to notice that one of the cars, on both days, did not have the little handicapped sign on either its license plate or the little thing that dangles on the rear-view mirror. This really upset me, especially when I noticed that the tag that was dangling was a faculty/staff marker. I don't know who it was, but, YOU KNOW WHO YOU ARE! All I know is that if I were in a wheel chair I would have cried; and then I would have used my cast to mangle more than just my foot.

My little predicament has made me aware of just a few problems people with disabilities face. I thank God that I am not permanently handicapped, and I will try hard never to break another anything on my body. I am also very thankful to all the people who have helped me so much with my injury. You know who you are!